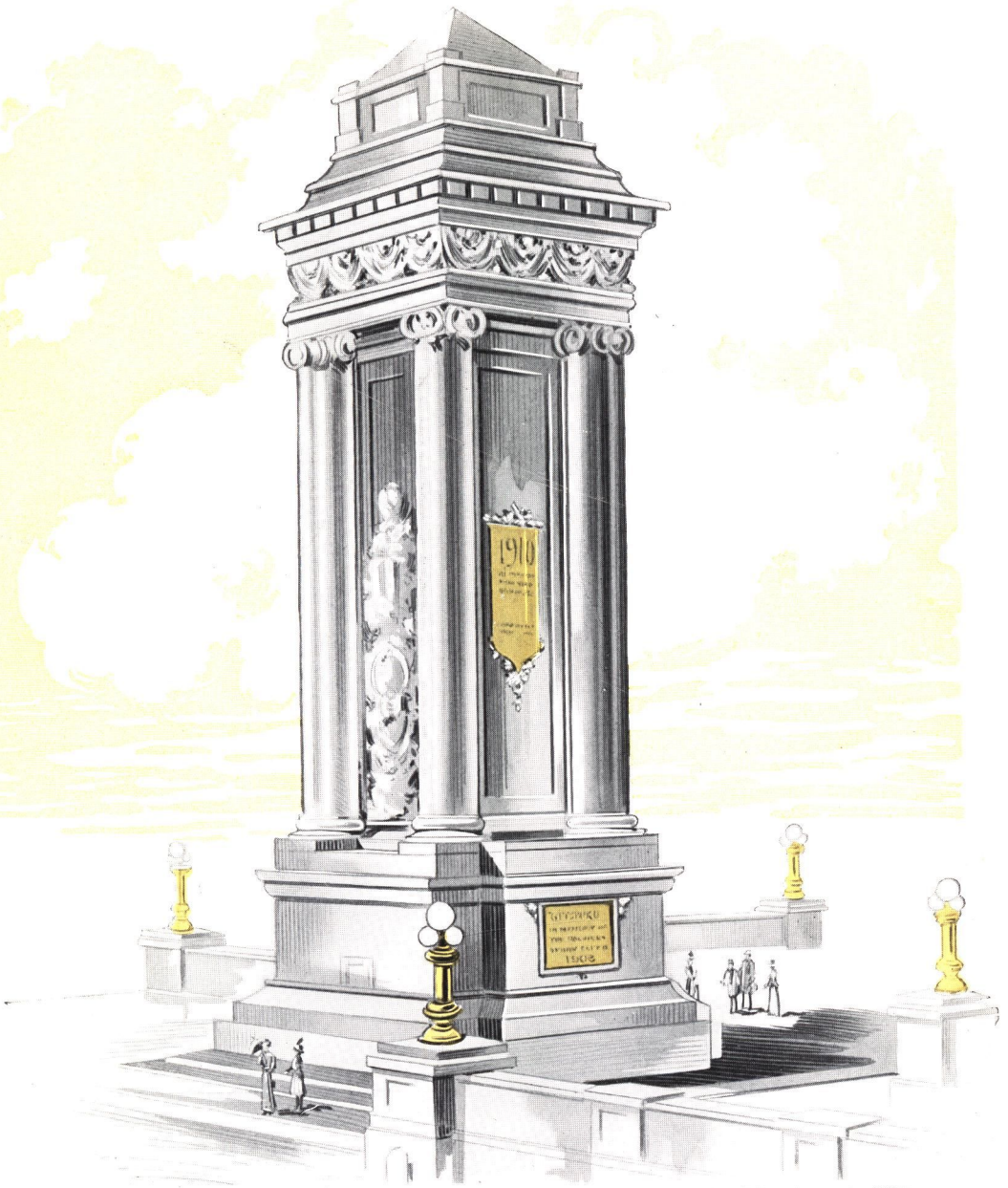


THE
ROCK AGES

BOUTWELL MILNE & VARNUM CO
BARRE VERMONT

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BARRE, VERMONT



DARK BARRE GRANITE
"The Rock of Ages"

EXCLUSIVELY QUARRIED BY
BOUTWELL MILNE & VARNUM CO.
BARRE VERMONT

ONE of the most beautiful customs of man—a practice as old as civilization—is the erection of memorials to the departed. The human mind has ever been stirred to its depths and moved to great achievements in an effort to preserve the memory of the dead. Where history dims in the distant past, the one living record of the ancients is gathered from the architecture and inscriptions of their monuments and tombs. By these marks we gather our knowledge of a pre-historic civilization and judge the education and culture of an otherwise forgotten people.

It is this desire to perpetuate the memory of lost loved ones—the noblest impulse of the human heart—that has moved hundreds of thousands of our own people in modern times to erect monuments and mausoleums of the most enduring granite as a mark of love and esteem.

It is to be regretted that too often, through a lack of knowledge of the destructive influences of time and the elements, proper care is not exercised in the selection of a stone that will give permanent expression to the sentiment it represents.

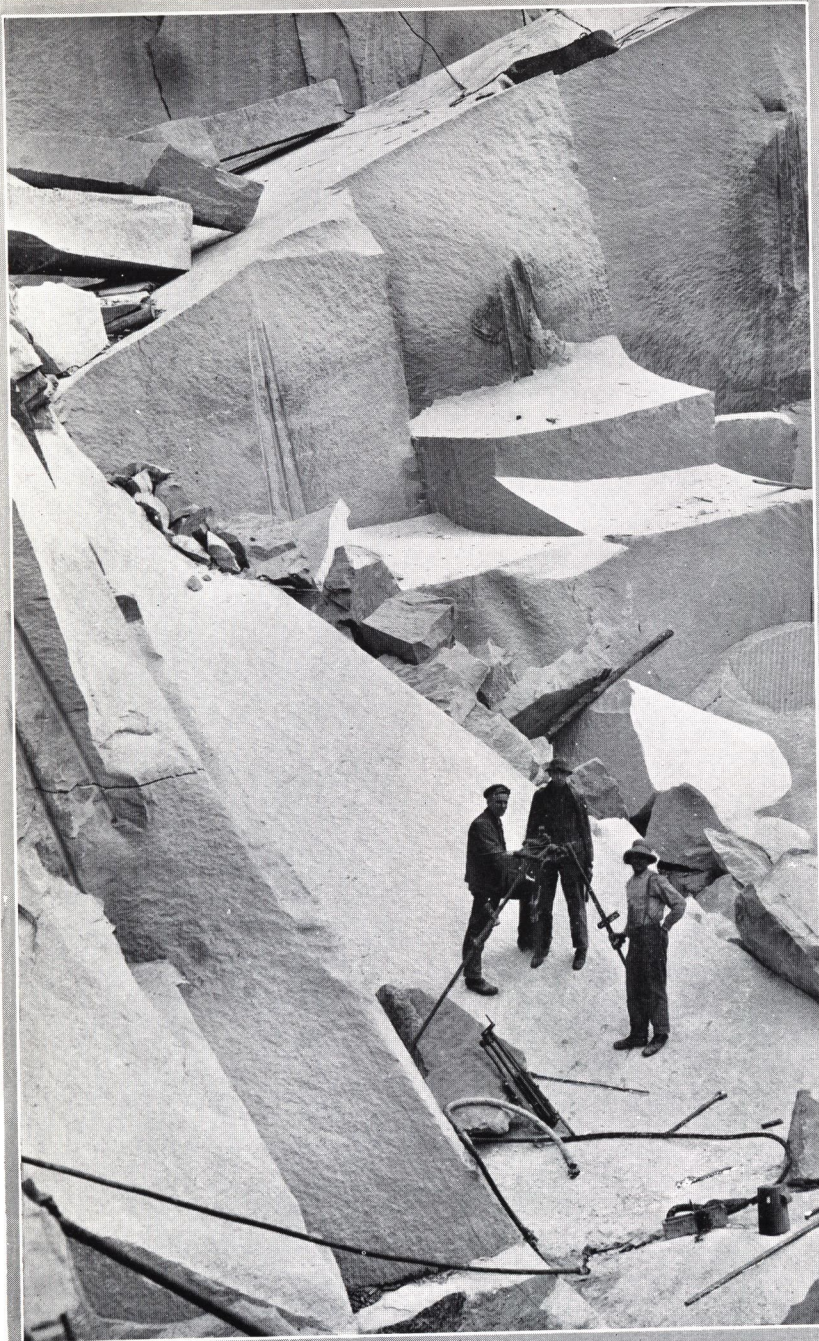
It is only within recent years that buyers are giving due consideration to the durability as well as the beauty of the stone. Nearly every



Opposite page: Section of a quarry where large granite blocks have been removed.

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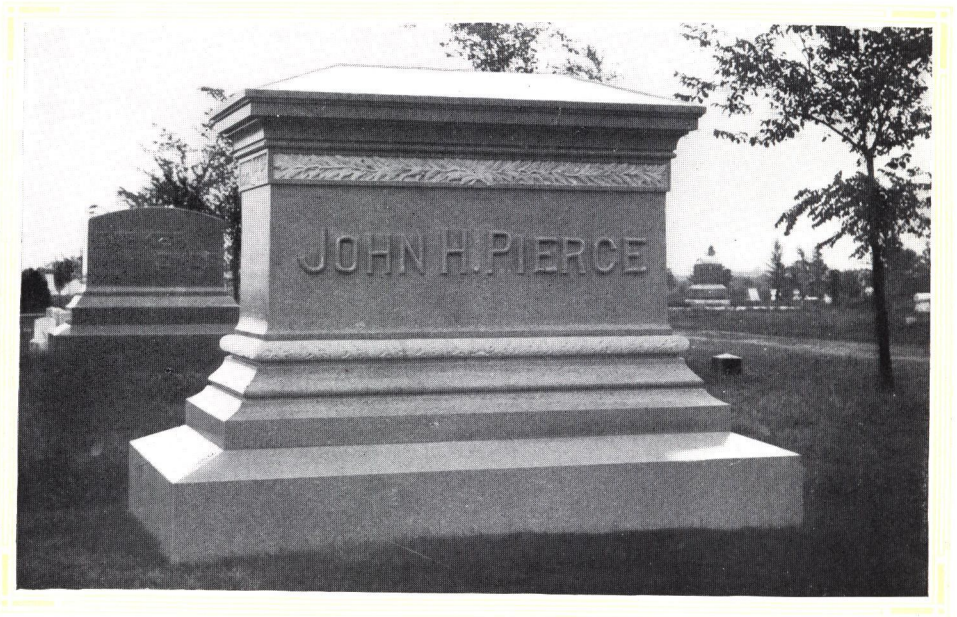


DARK BARRE GRANITE

American cemetery bears mute testimony of ill-advised selections in the stained, crumbled and broken slabs of marble and the faded and lustreless surfaces of the many inferior varieties of granite suitable only for building purposes.

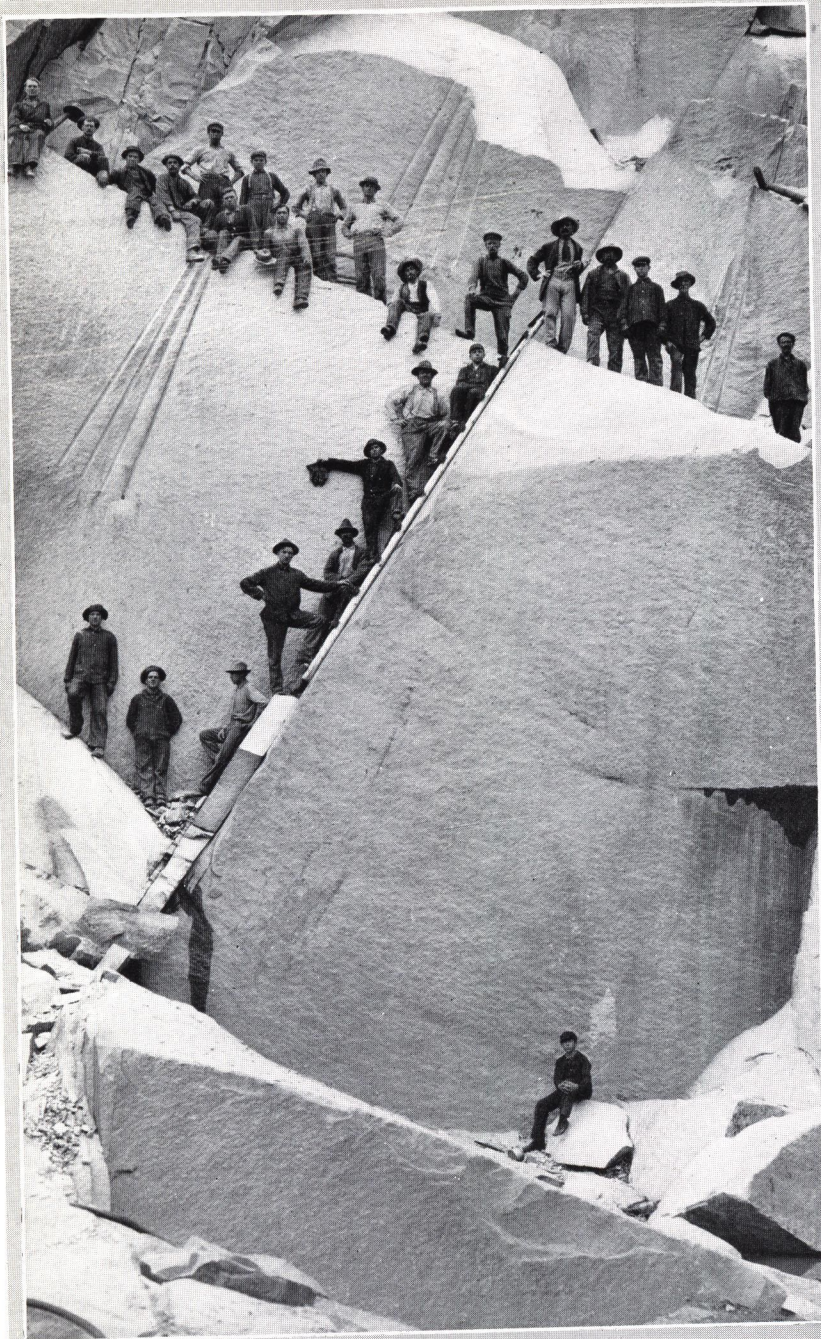
This booklet can serve no worthier purpose than to acquaint the reader with the stone that is in every way best suited to monumental purposes—beautiful, never-fading, everlasting and element-proof—Dark Barre Granite—the “Rock of Ages.” The great pyramids, tombs and sepulchres of ancient times do not perpetuate better the memory of the departed than does this elegant and eternal stone.

The use of Dark Barre Granite, the “Rock of Ages,” for monumental purposes has increased enormously in recent years, and a corresponding decrease in the use of inferior granites and marble has been noticeable in the cemeteries of our country. This improvement in the way of more beautiful and more lasting memorials to the dead has come about through a general awakening on the part of the public to the great superiority of Dark Barre Granite, the “Rock of Ages,” and a determination to avoid the mistakes of the past.



Opposite page: Good view of a mammoth stone—the finest quality.

THE ROCK OF AGES



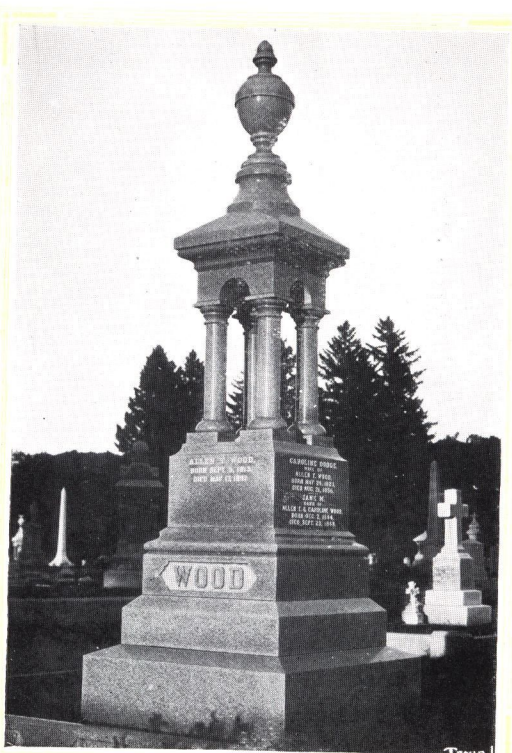
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Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," is the aristocrat of the granite industry of the world. The finest granites come from the green hills about the city of Barre, Vermont—the granite center of the world—and the fact that Dark Barre Granite has always commanded a higher price than any other variety is conclusive proof that the public, as well as the granite trade, recognize this stone as *the quality* product of the quarry.

Dark Barre Granite is of a rich, dark blue-gray color, absolutely unfading and remarkably free from streaks and markings. The polishing possibilities of this stone are remarkable. It lends itself to a most enduring glass-like surface that almost deceives the eye, so deep and transparent is the lustre that can be produced.

The grain, or texture of Dark Barre Granite, is very fine—so fine, in fact, that the lines of cleavage can scarcely be seen, while in most

other granites the lines of cleavage are open and noticeable to an extent that gives an unpleasant impression of coarseness. In addition to the superior beauty of its rough or polished surface, this fine, crystalline-granular construction is a perfect protection against the destructive elements of open-air exposure.



Opposite page: A Section of a solid granite wall without a seam, extending a distance of fifty feet.

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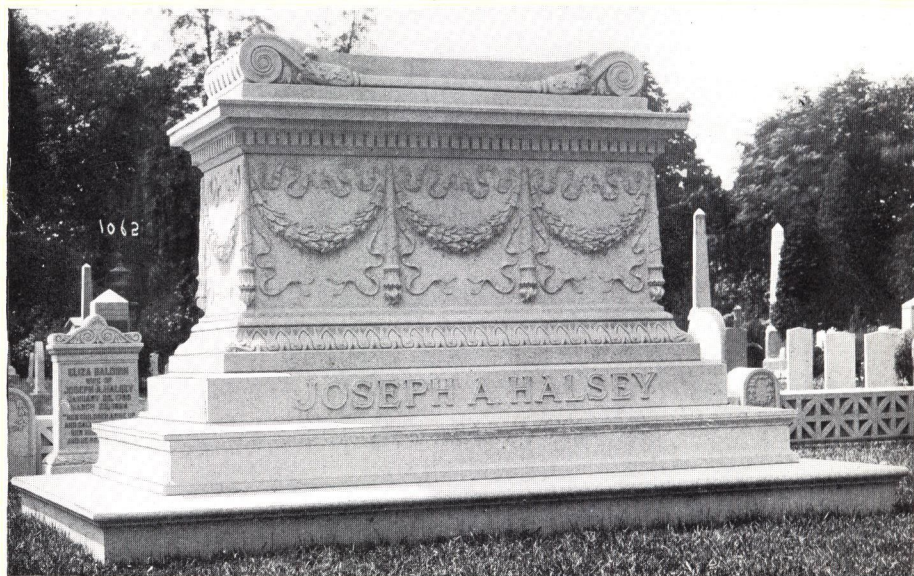


DARK BARRE GRANITE

Dark Barre Granite is the heaviest of monumental stones, weighing nearly five pounds more to the cubic foot than any other granite. Its close, flint-like construction makes the work of quarrying difficult. The most modern machinery and the most improved methods are necessary to remove it from its centuries-old resting-place.

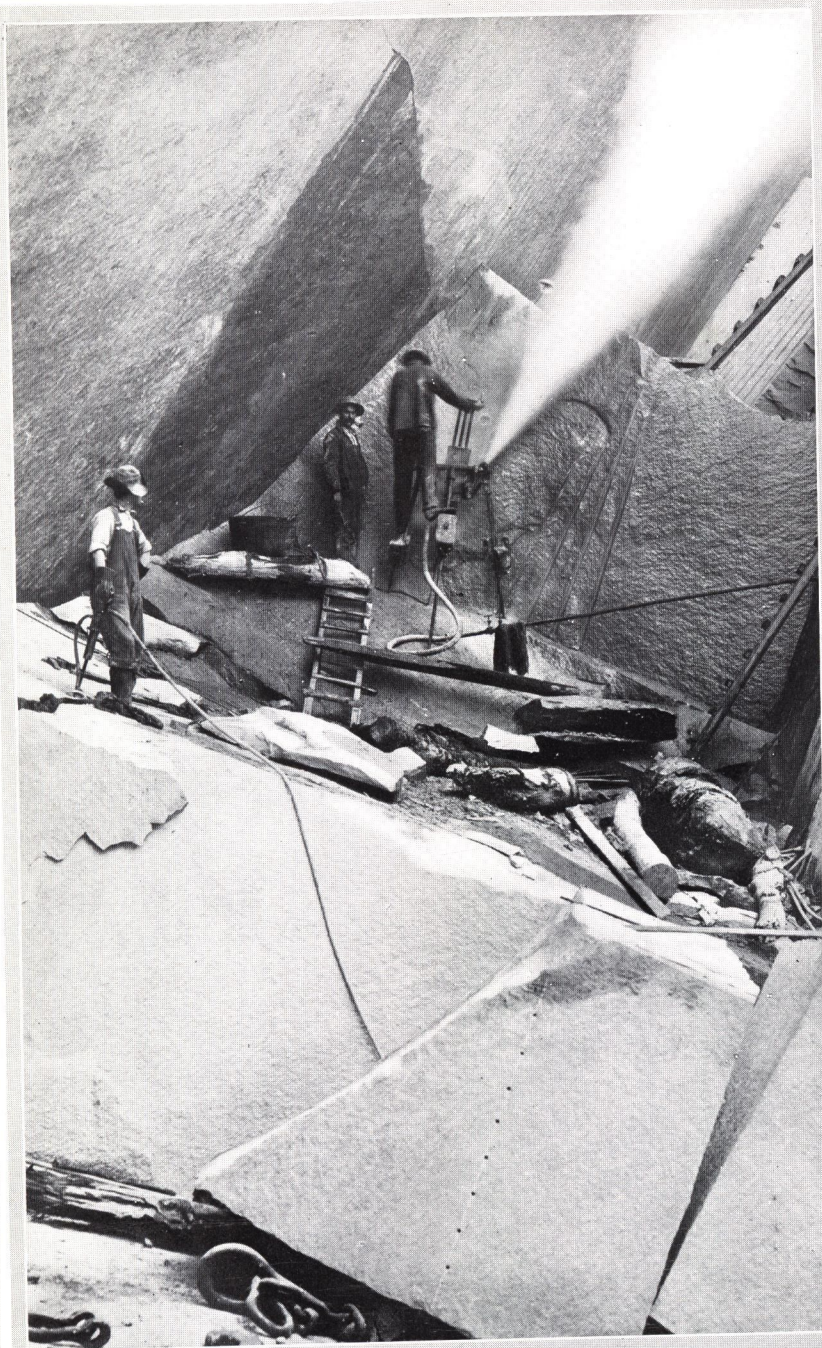
To the manufacturer of memorials the fineness of the grain is of the greatest value, as it enables him to produce masterpieces of architecture, carving and polish. Sharp edges are easily preserved, and even the finest stems of flowers can be chiseled with safety. The same clinging hardness that minimizes the probability of spoiling the stone in cutting eliminates the possibility of chipped and broken carving after the erection of the finished memorial. This is an established guarantee of protection against the ravages of time and an assurance of permanent satisfaction. Memorials cut from Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," erected decades ago, are today as perfect as when they left the cutter's shop.

In a broad sense Dark Barre Granite is an important instrument in the movement for civic betterment in our American cities.



Opposite page: Working the steam drill on a high shelf. A large block is to be removed.

THE ROCK OF AGES



Cemeteries and memorials are semi-public in character because located where they are viewed by the public. Whatever improvement can be effected through individual forethought in the selection of more beautiful and more lasting memorials will be a precious heritage bequeathed to future generations.

Barre, the Granite Center of the World

As an indication of the merit of a product, the record of its production and use, has great significance. It is proper that we should mention the phenomenal growth of the granite industry of Barre, Vermont, especially as applied to the production of Dark Barre Granite. Unless one has been familiar with the development of the industry from its infancy to the present time, the growth of Barre is almost beyond belief.



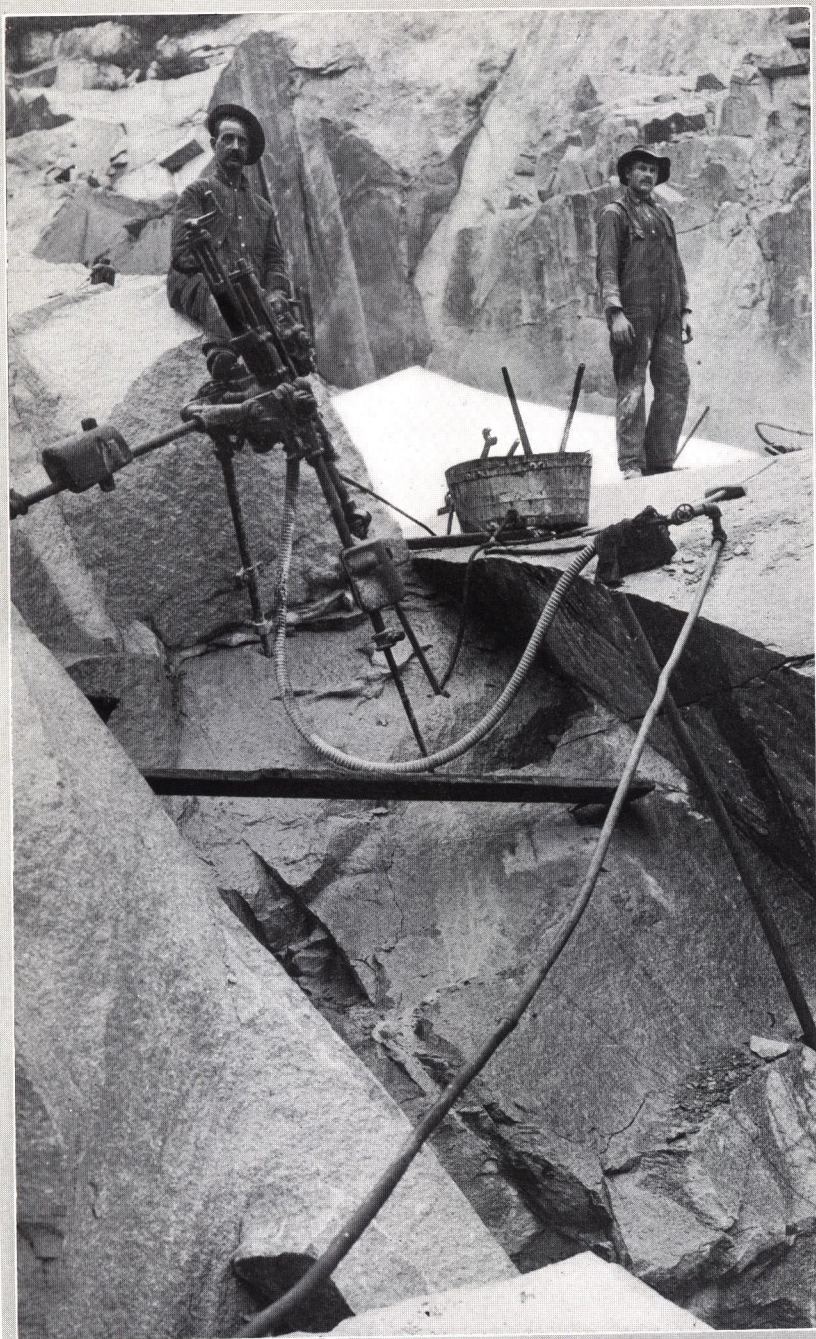
In this connection it is interesting to note the increase in the population of Barre city and Barre town (township) during the last two decades. The city and town of Barre are largely dependent upon the granite industry and their progress is a further proof of the increasing demand for a higher quality of granite memorials. In 1880, the population of



Opposite page: Sinking a deep tripod hole for a blast.

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DARK BARRE GRANITE

Barre city and town was 2,700. In 1910 the population of the city and town was 12,832. Such a growth in population may not be considered remarkable, but in this instance, where it is founded largely upon a single industry, the increase is significant, to say the least.

Naturally other communities have been affected by the development of the granite industry. Nearby localities, to which the shipment of granite in the rough is comparatively easy, have profited by the establishing of large granite-cutting sheds, and these communities have grown in population. Among these places are Montpelier, the capital of the state, Northfield, Waterbury, Williamstown, Berlin, East Barre—all in Washington County. In St. Johnsbury, Barton, West Danville, Morrisville, St. Albans, Burlington, South Ryegate, Groton, Manchester and Bristol—all in Vermont—are granite-working industries cutting Barre granite almost exclusively. Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," is shipped in the rough to nearly every state in the Union, and there shaped to the needs and desires of the customer. But the greater



Opposite page: New electric air drill. When the picture was taken the drill had been sunk seventeen feet into solid granite.

THE ROCK OF AGES



quantity of the stone quarried is cut, polished and carved by the manufacturers in Barre and other places in the state of Vermont.

The wonderful and growing popularity of this monumental stone stands as a memorial to the men who knew its merits and who worked with zeal to convince the public that Barre Granite is superior to other granites of our own and foreign countries for monumental purposes. To these faithful pioneers all credit is due for the immense granite industry of Barre today. The correctness of their judgment is manifested in many ways, and especially by the fact that almost the entire output of Barre Granite is used for monumental purposes, while much of the product of other granite-producing sections is used for building purposes. There is not a granite firm in Barre whose exclusive business is quarrying building stone, but it is a conservative estimate that fully ninety-

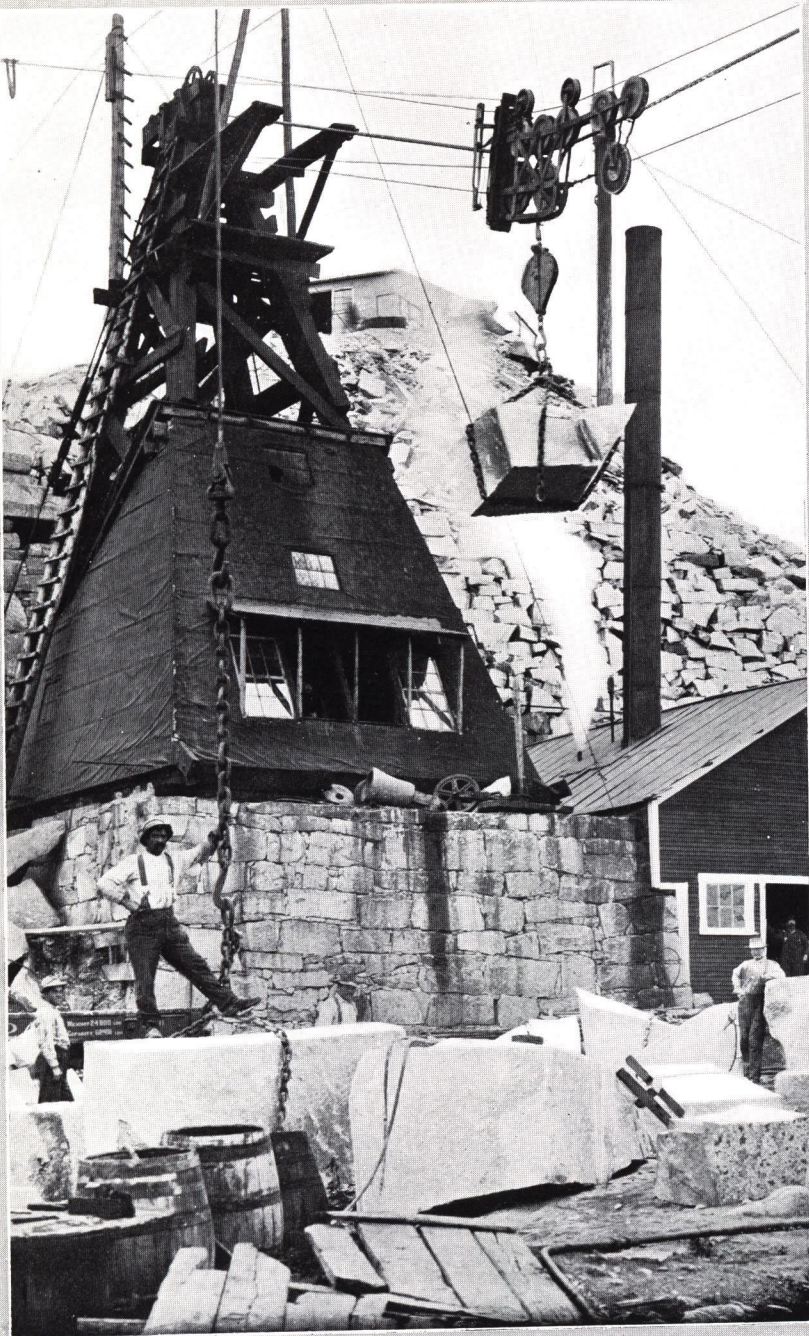
nine per cent. of the entire output of Barre Granite is used in the manufacture of memorials. This speaks most highly for Barre Granite, and no one should doubt the peerless quality of Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," whose supremacy over all other Barre Granite is undisputed.



Opposite page: Steam power house and conveying machinery for carrying granite blocks from quarry to cars. The cable is two and one-half inches in diameter.

BARRE

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DARK BARRE GRANITE

Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Co.

The principals of this corporation and the active workers are men who have spent their lives in the granite industry, and it is their constant effort to merit the large business they have established in the quarrying and marketing of Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages."

For five years previous to operating a quarry for himself, James M. Boutwell was manager of the James R. Langdon Granite Company. In 1895 Mr. Boutwell purchased the Langdon quarry and operated it until 1904, when he sold a half interest to H. W. Varnum, and a corporation was then formed with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars.

The following year the corporation purchased the Milne, Clarehew & Gray quarry, and George B. Milne became a working partner, the name of the corporation being changed to that of Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company. Since 1905 other quarries have been purchased, including those of Marr & Gordon and the Bruce quarries.



Opposite page: Conveying trolley. A granite block raised 200 feet from the quarry is being transported to the cars.

THE ROCK OF AGES



BOUTWELL MILNE & VARNUM CO

To-day Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company operate twelve quarries of Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages." All of the properties are adjoining, and the area covered by active quarrying is approximately one hundred acres.

Thousands of tons of the finest Dark Barre Granite have been removed from the properties and now, in the finished state, adorn the cemeteries and parks of our country. It is beyond the conjecture of man to estimate the extent of the deposit.

The quality of the stone improves as depth is reached, but even that near the surface is considered the best granite yet discovered. It is not surprising, therefore, that Dark Barre Granite grows more popular as time advances, and that its fame as the "Rock of Ages" increases.

In 1890, when the Langdon quarry was managed by Mr. Boutwell, twelve men and a yoke of oxen were employed, and a twenty horsepower engine furnished the necessary steam for the drills. The operations of Mr. Milne were on about the same scale. To-day Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company has four hundred men employed in their quarries. Eleven modern steam plants furnish power for steam drills; two air

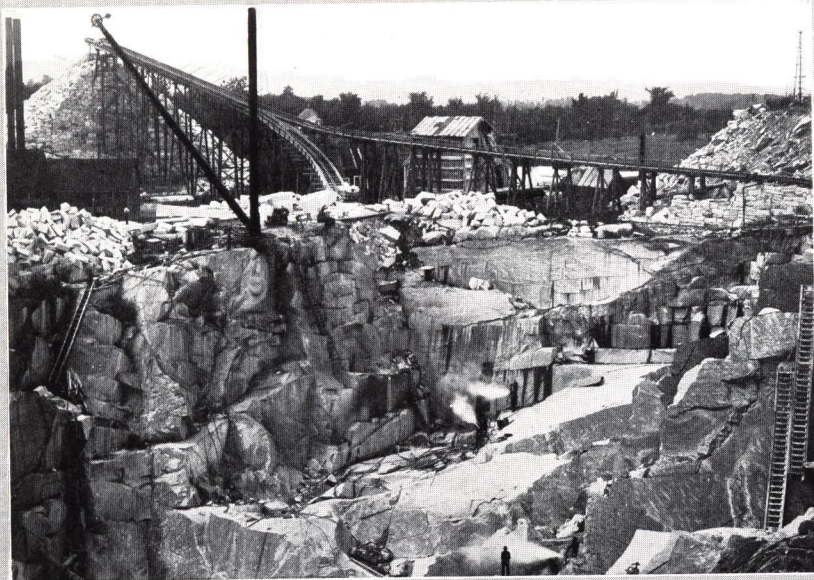


Opposite page: Upper picture, Tramway line for removing the "grout."

Lower picture, Two steam drills channeling to greater depth for large blocks.

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DARK BARRE GRANITE

compressors supply eighty-five air drills, and, in addition to these, there are used three Temple electric drills with a capacity of about sixty cubic feet of granite per day.

Seven separate and distinct blacksmith shops are employed sharpening drills and handling light repair work. A central modern machine shop is operated for the construction and the repairing of large machinery and derricks.

There are many derricks scattered about the property, each of which has its own steam power equipment. The largest of these derricks has a thirty-six inch stock at the base, thirty inches at the top, and is 115 feet in height. This derrick is said to be the largest of its kind in the United States. Its operating engine has a hoisting capacity of one hundred tons, and the largest stone yet raised weighed sixty tons and it was elevated to a car on a single steel cable.

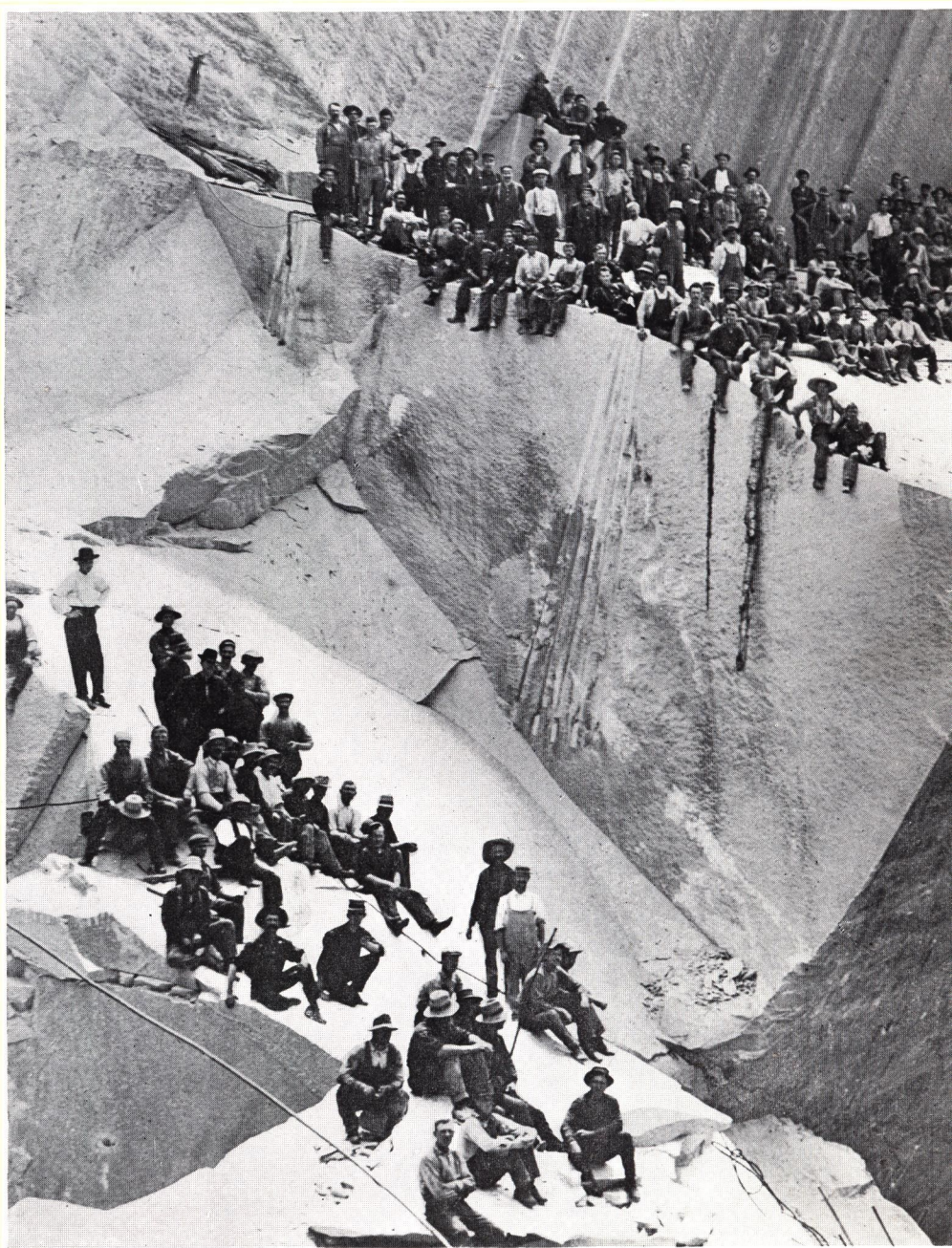
The plant of a granite quarry cannot remain long in one location. As a new base is worked, or new quarries opened, the entire machinery of the plant must be moved. On the property of this company it is necessary to move the steam plants, derricks and machinery about



Opposite page: Upper picture, A huge boulder of finest grade granite.
Lower picture, Another view, showing large blocks in one of the big quarries.

THE ROCK OF AGES





This mammoth boulder has not been entirely uncovered, but from the exposed surface it is estimated



out five hundred thousand cubic feet—the largest single stone of granite ever uncovered anywhere.

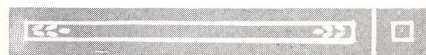
BOUTWELL MILNE & VARNUM CO

every three or four years. The average life of an entire granite-quarrying plant is about seven years. The rough and heavy character of the work makes constant renewal of machinery necessary.

Until 1888 granite from the quarries was conveyed by team to the cutting sheds at Barre, a distance of five miles. The business was not then what it is to-day, but Barre Granite was fast making a name for itself and better transportation facilities were imperative. In the fall of 1888 construction began on the Barre railroad. It had seven miles of track and it was completed and put into operation the following winter.

The Dark Barre Granite quarries of Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company are located at an elevation of 840 feet above Barre city. In order to reach them by rail it was necessary to construct several "switchbacks." The air-line distance between these quarries and

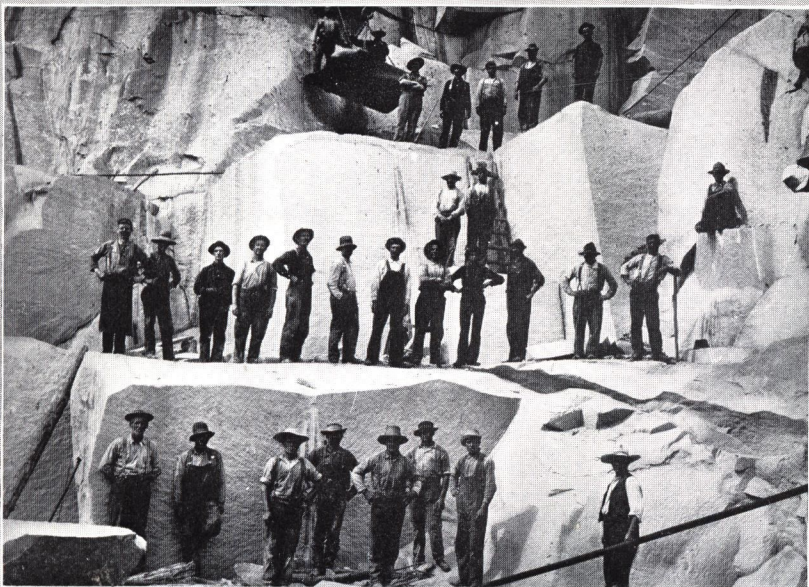
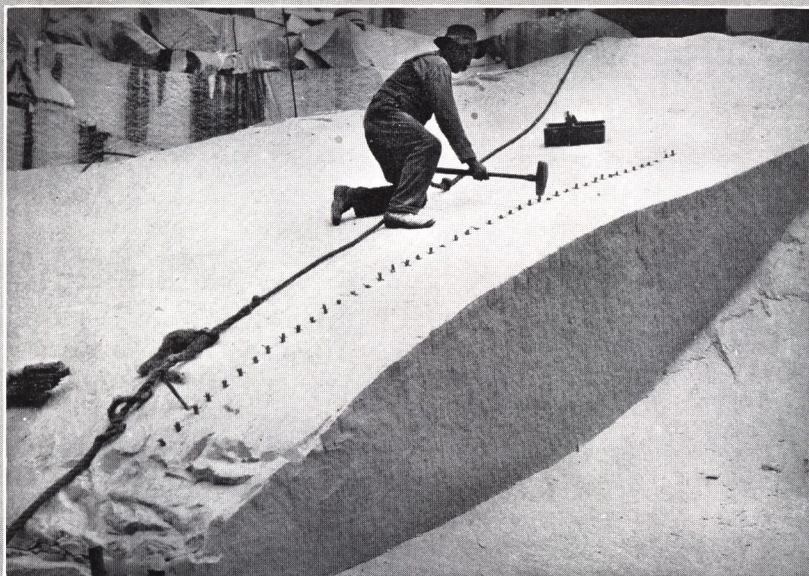
the city of Barre is about four miles, but to-day the entire trackage of the Barre Railroad is twenty-six miles. There are twenty sidings on the property, thirteen of which are equipped with loading wharves and derricks for the prompt handling of granite as it comes from the quarries. The siding capacity permits the loading of sixteen cars per day without



Opposite page: Upper picture, Splitting off a granite block.
Lower picture, Mammoth layers of finest Dark Barre Granite.

BARRE

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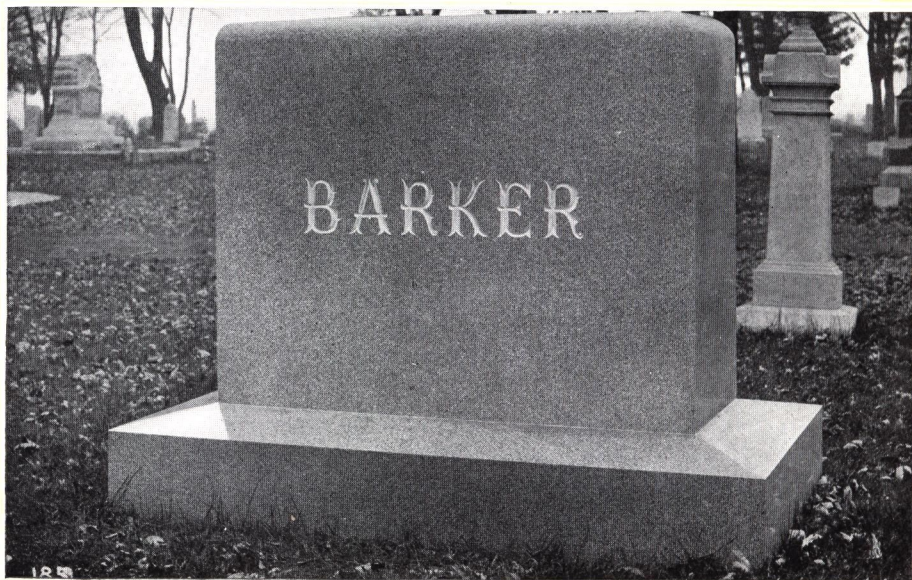


DARK BARRE GRANITE

shifting. An average shipment of 17 to 23 cars has been maintained for a week, and the record for a single day is the loading and shipping of 29 cars.

In the illustrated pages of this booklet an effort has been made to show the manner in which Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," is taken from the quarries, the extent of the operations, and some of the finished memorials cut from this most beautiful and lasting stone. In selecting the pictures of finished monuments, we have tried to present a representative collection of well-proportioned memorials without attempting to show many of the very fine monuments and mausoleums of Dark Barre Granite which adorn the burial places of the land. In nearly every well-kept cemetery may be seen distinctive and permanent specimens of the "Rock of Ages."

Especial attention is directed to the double-page illustration in the center of the booklet showing a mammoth boulder of Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages." This boulder has not been entirely uncovered, but from the exposed surface it is estimated to contain about five hundred thousand cubic feet—the largest single stone of



Opposite page: Upper picture, Sheets of granite weighing hundreds of tons.

Lower picture, A large boulder from which many tons of blocks have been taken.

THE ROCK OF AGES

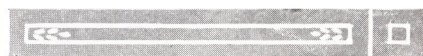
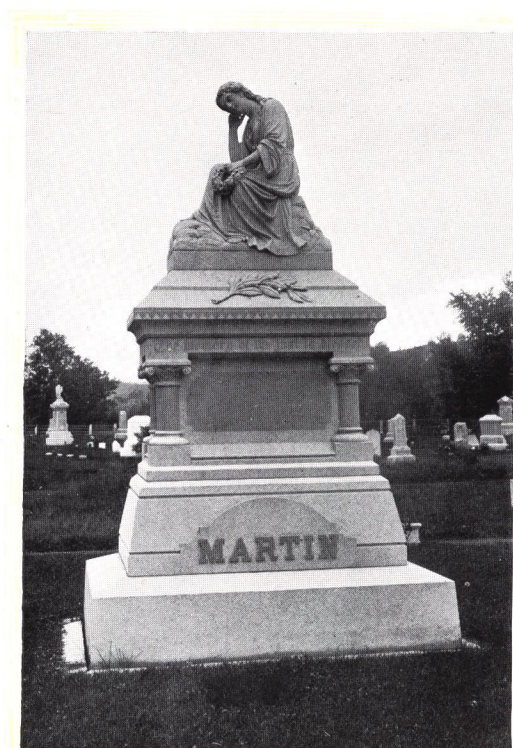


granite ever uncovered anywhere. Much of the stone in the Boutwell, Milne & Varnum quarries is of boulder formation, which is much harder and more uniform in grain and color than a layer formation or massed stone.

The Smith Monument

The largest polished shaft of granite in the world—the splendid monument in memory of Joseph Smith, the founder of the Mormon Church—was cut from Dark Barre Granite, the “Rock of Ages.” The entire shaft above the base was cut from a single piece of stone from a Boutwell, Milne and Varnum quarry. The base was also built of finest Dark Barre Granite. The monument, which was erected at the Smith birthplace in the town of Sharon, Vermont, is twelve by twelve feet at the base, and fifty-one feet high. See illustration

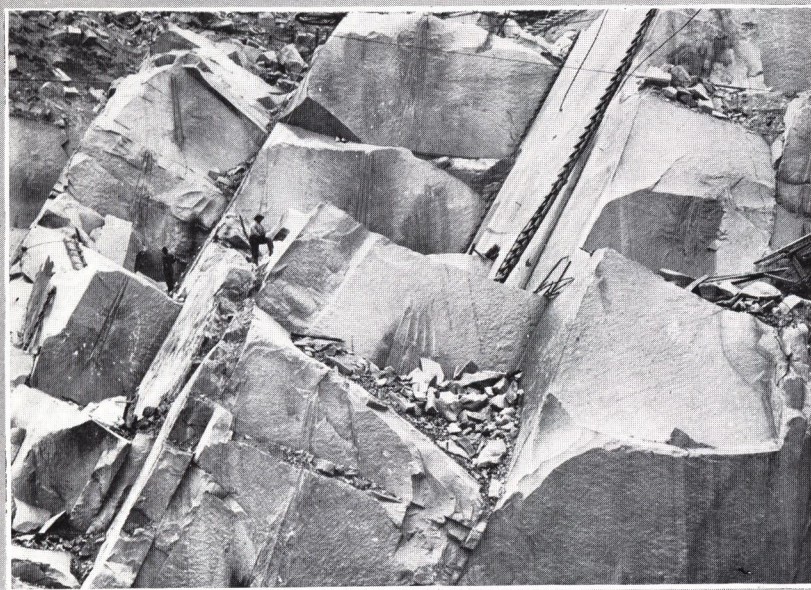
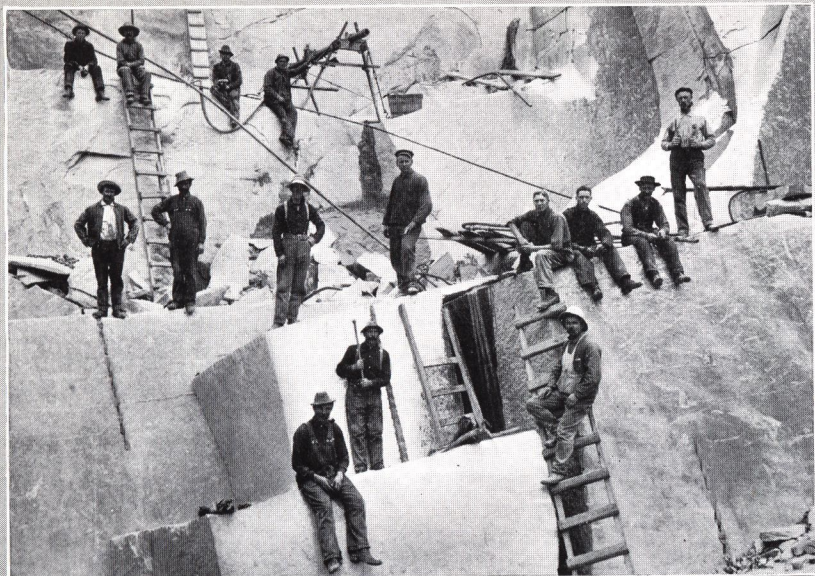
on page thirty-nine. When taken from the quarry the stone for this immense shaft weighed sixty tons. The utmost care and skill were necessary to insure safe removal. Transporting the stone to the cutting sheds, a distance of about five miles by railroad, the cutting and polishing, then its transportation to Sharon, Vermont, a distance of forty-six miles,



Opposite page: Upper picture, Fine layers of dark granite.
Lower picture, Diagonal strata of fine quality.

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DARK BARRE GRANITE

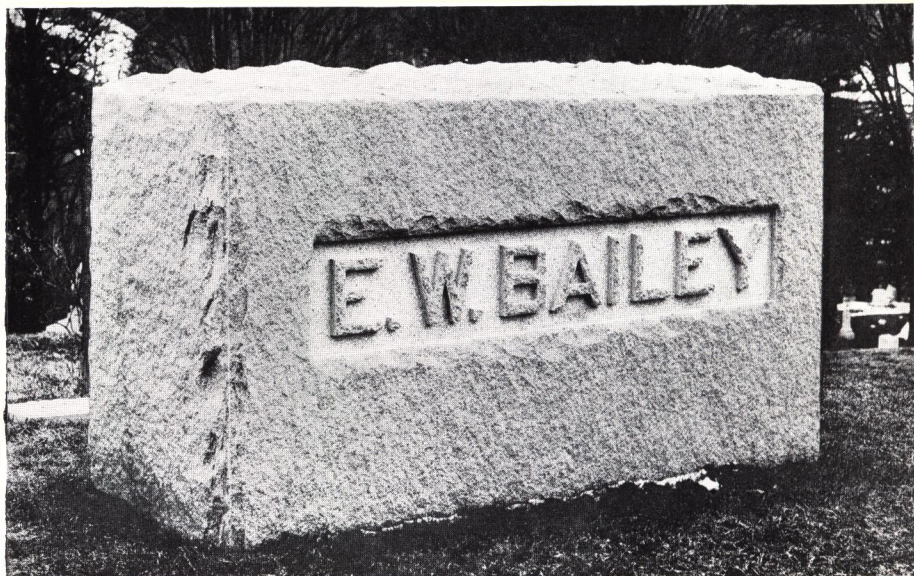
and the erection of the memorial were tasks of Herculean effort. All this was accomplished without making a scratch to mar its beauty.

Mr. Julius F. Wells of Salt Lake City, Utah, conceived the idea of erecting a memorial to the founder of the Mormon Church on the site of his birthplace in Vermont. Mr. Wells personally superintended the cutting, transportation and erection of the memorial.

Mr. Wells has written:

"The work of getting out the main shaft fell to Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company. With great skill and expedition they raised the enormous block out of the quarry and delivered it to the cutting shop. I have always felt that our success was largely due to the fact that the work of getting out the stone was given to the firm of Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company."

This statement is presented here to show that it is possible to procure Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," in any size desired—from the small marker to the largest memorial.



Opposite page: Upper picture, One of the power houses, derrick and "grout" piles.
Lower picture, Tons have been removed, and tons remain.

THE ROCK OF AGES



Carving Possibilities of Dark Barre Granite

The illustrations on the opposite page show admirable examples of the carving possibilities of the "Rock of Ages," but the pictures can not fully bring out the beauty and fineness of the work. The carving is so deep that the shadows shown in the photographs detract somewhat from the grace and depth of the chiseling.

At many places on the pieces shown one's fingers may be placed underneath the stems of the flowers, and the stems themselves are very small.

Work such as this proves that Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," is especially adapted to the finest and most delicate carving—

a feature that has an important bearing on the beauty and permanence of the finished memorial.

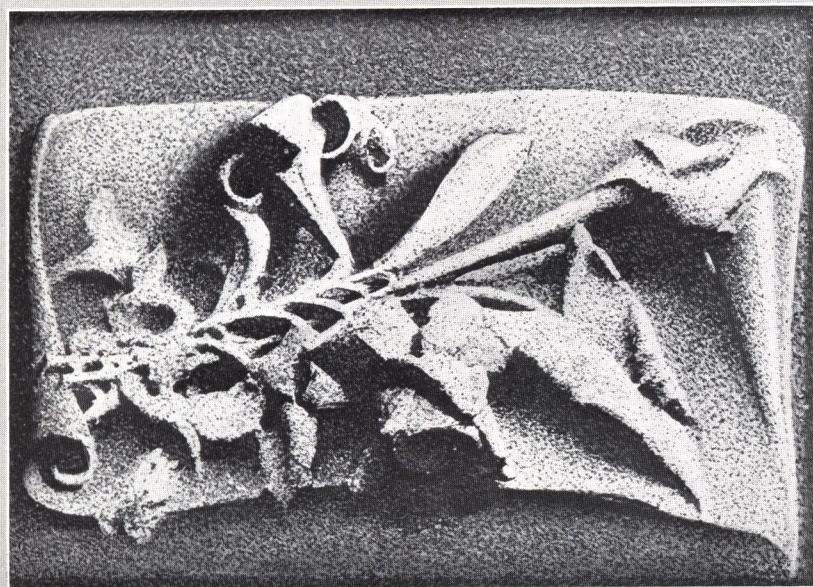
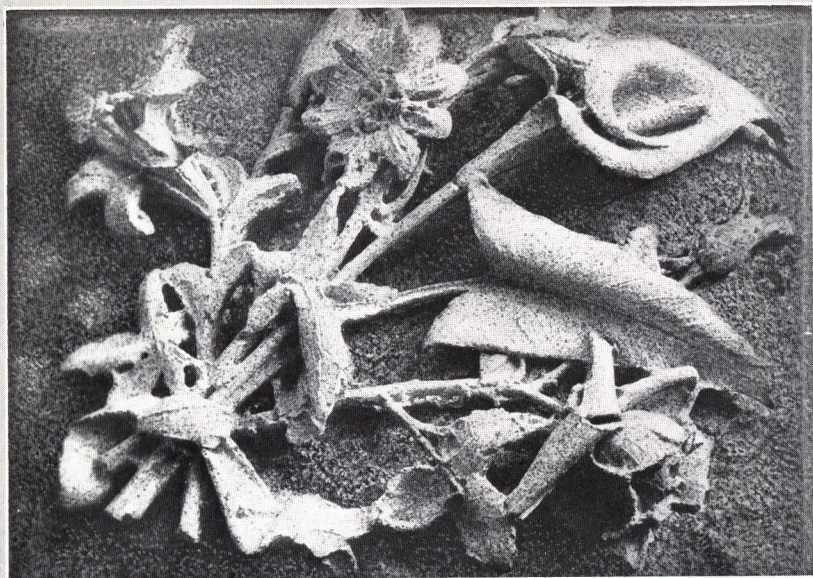
Attention is also directed to the splendid carving on the Burns monument shown on pages 40 and 41. This monument is famous for its splendid relief carving; it is cut from Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages."



Opposite page: Examples of Carving in Dark Barre Granite.

BARRE

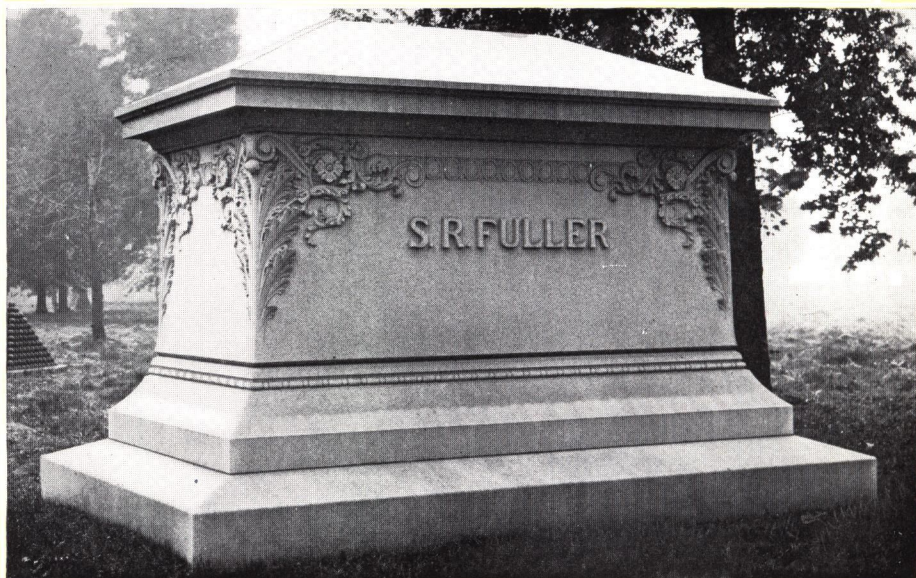
VERMONT



DARK BARRE GRANITE

The Cost of Dark Barre Granite

Dark Barre Granite costs a little more than other granites—and it is worth all and more than it costs. For monumental purposes the best is none too good, and a stone that will not give *permanent* satisfaction is expensive at any price. When the facts are known and understood, Dark Barre Granite is the most inexpensive of granites. No granite is quarried to-day, and no stone is known to exist in the world, that possesses the same enduring qualities; no stone lends itself to the same carving and polishing possibilities, or offers greater beauty in color and texture, and no stone, quarried in this or any other country, has had the same phenomenal growth in popularity. To keep pace with the demand, it has been found necessary to frequently increase the number of skilled quarrymen and to add to the machinery equipment. The quality and permanence of Dark Barre Granite, the “Rock of Ages,” will be apparent long after price has been forgotten.



Opposite page: Upper picture, Shaping a stone for shipment.
Lower picture, Close view of channeling.

THE ROCK OF AGES



How to Obtain Dark Barre Granite

Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company quarries and sells only the rough stone, but any monument dealer can furnish memorials of Dark Barre Granite. The purchaser should be careful to specify and *insist* upon "Dark Barre Granite from the quarries of Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Co." The majority of monument dealers and manufacturers are thoroughly dependable, but occasionally cheaper and inferior stone has been substituted. We have arranged a plan whereby every buyer of memorials of Dark Barre Granite may have an absolute guarantee, certified by us, that his monument is cut from Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages." Details of this simple plan will be furnished promptly upon application to Boutwell, Milne

& Varnum Company, Barre, Vermont. This data should be obtained before a contract is placed with a dealer.

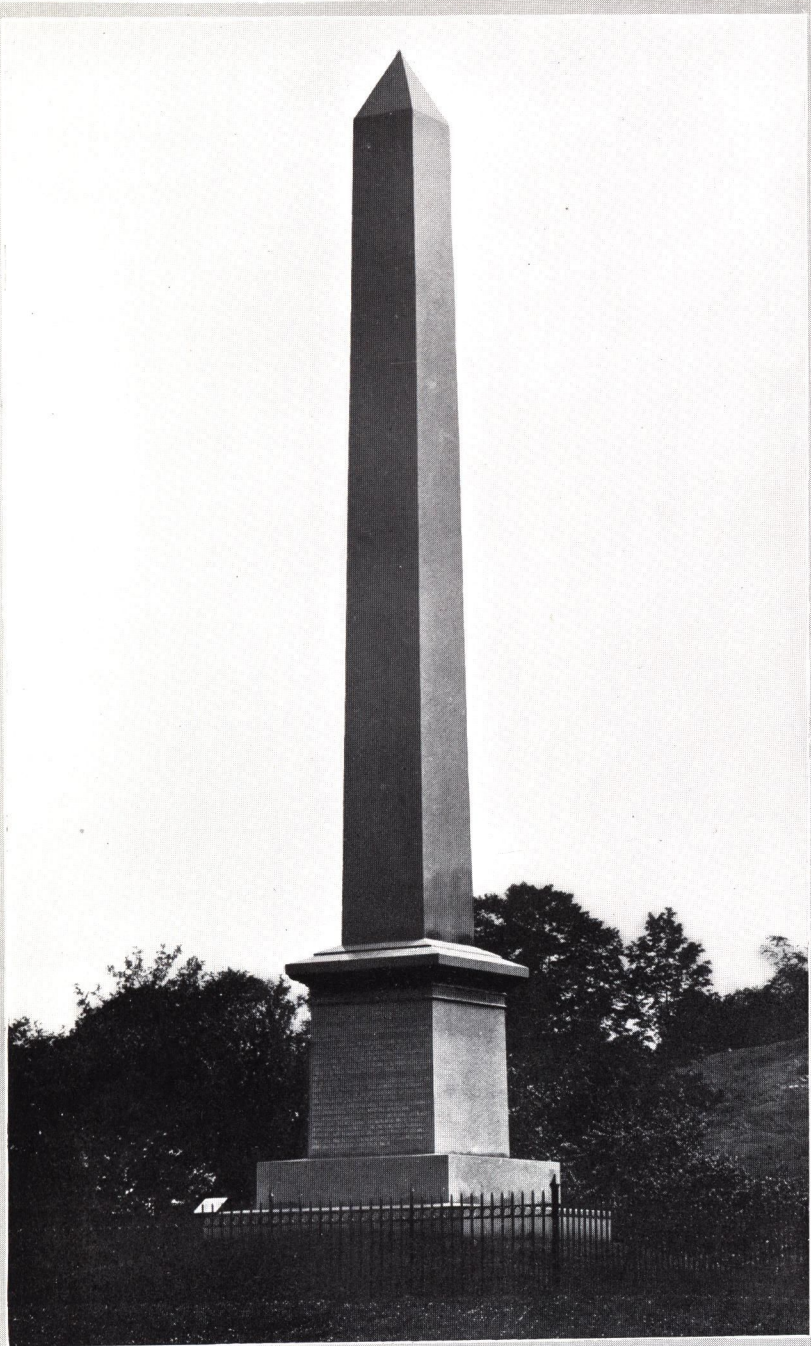
You wish to make no mistake in your selection of a monumental stone. Our wish is to assist you in avoiding a mistake. Let us show you we can be of service.



Opposite page: The Smith monument at Sharon, Vermont. Description is given on page 30.

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DARK BARRE GRANITE

To Monument Dealers

Most dealers in memorials realize that it is to their best interest not only to recommend and urge the use of Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages," but to furnish indisputable proof to their customers that the stone supplied is the genuine product from the quarries of Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company.

Write us for details of plan by which we certify to the use of Dark Barre Granite in the manufacture of memorials for your customers.

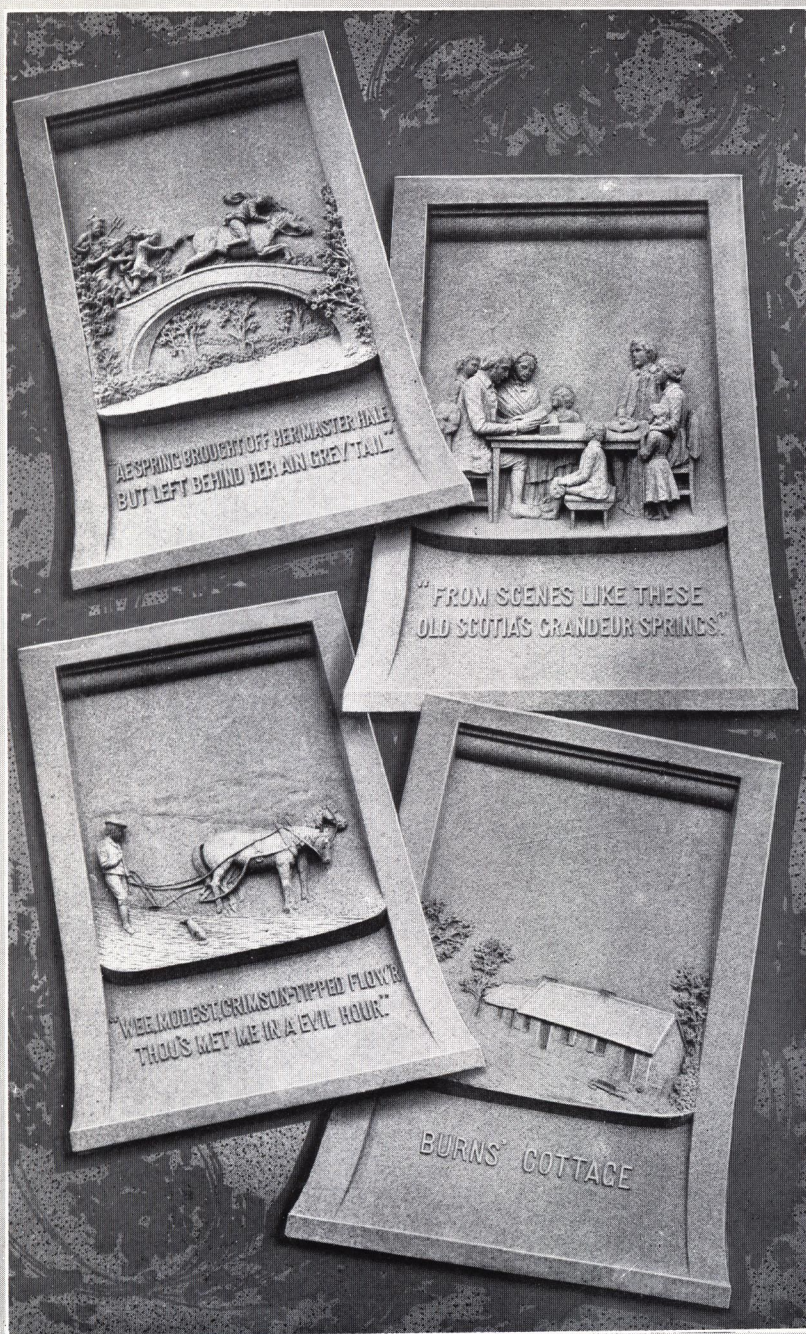
This plan protects, first, the purchaser, for by it he knows what he is buying; second, it protects the monument dealer, for he, too, knows that he has purchased the stone he has contracted to deliver to his customer; and, third, it protects us, for we, the quarrymen of that stone, are thus making a complete record of sale from the quarry to the cemetery.

We believe this plan will be welcomed by dealers generally, as it effectively removes all possibility of doubt on the part of the customer, and this reflects credit upon the dealer.

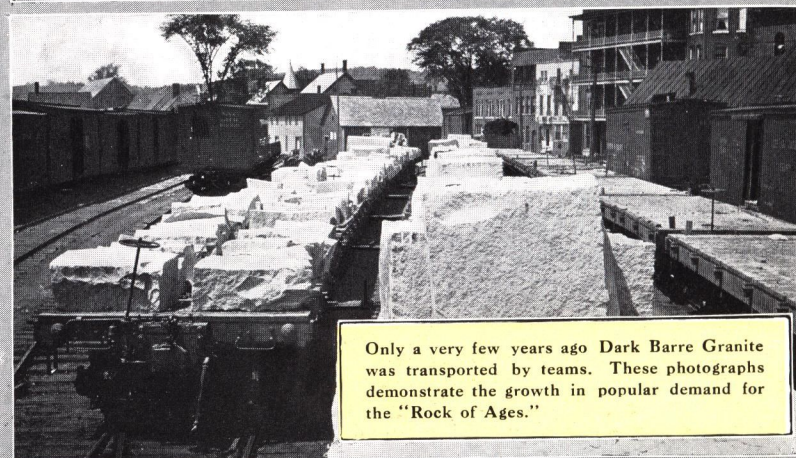
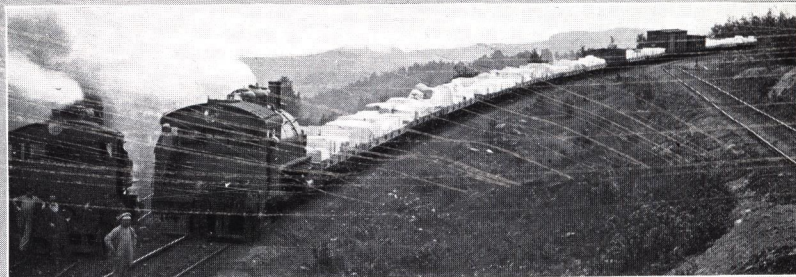


Opposite page: Artistic panels in the Burns monument at Barre, Vermont.

THE ROCK OF AGES



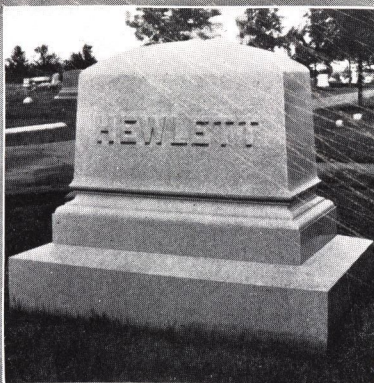
BOUTWELL MILNE & VARNUM CO



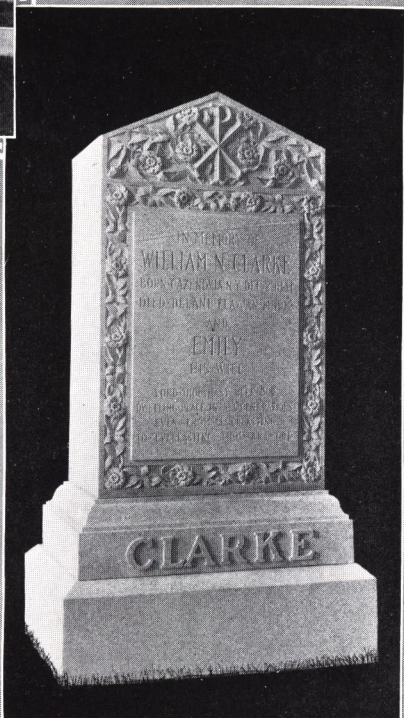
Only a very few years ago Dark Barre Granite was transported by teams. These photographs demonstrate the growth in popular demand for the "Rock of Ages."

BARRE

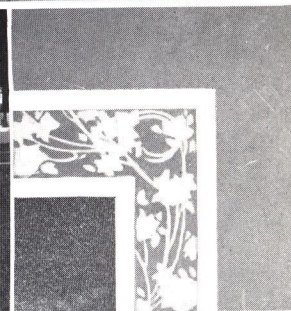
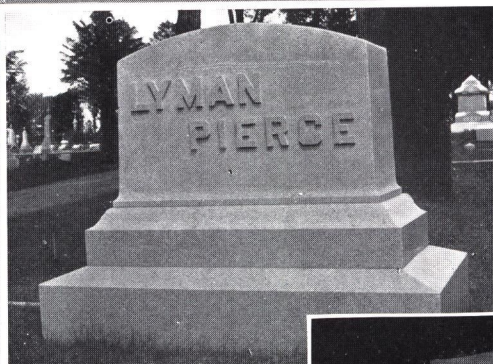
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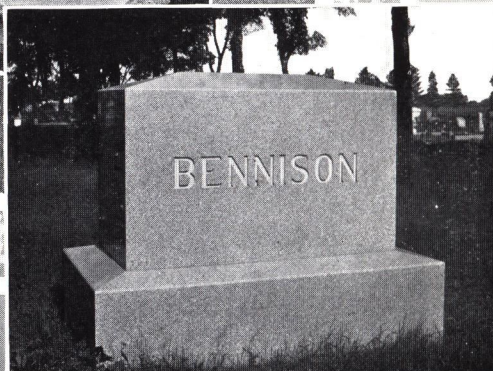
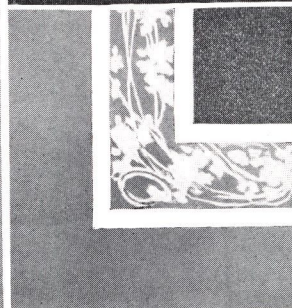
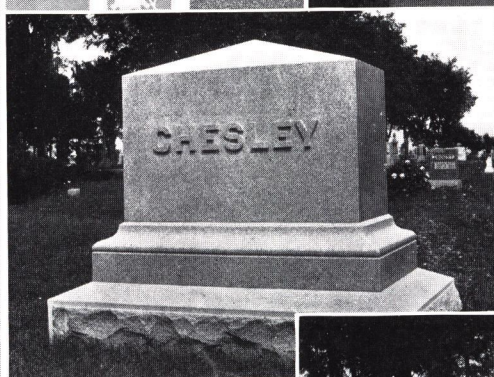
Some representative memorials cut from Dark Barre Granite, the "Rock of Ages."



DARK BARRE GRANITE



Some representative memorials
cut from Dark Barre Granite,
the "Rock of Ages."



THE ROCK OF AGES



Upper picture, Quarry office building of Boutwell, Milne & Varnum Company, Barre, Vermont.

Lower picture, Pay day at the quarries.



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